

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Delmur R. Mayhak, Jr., et al.	Examiner:	Boyce, Andre D.
Serial No.:	09/872,292	Group Art Unit:	3623
Filed:	June 1, 2001	Docket:	40134.0001USU1
Title:	METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SCHEDULING EMPLOYEES IN A PATIENT CARE ENVIRONMENT		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this paper and any attachments hereto or fee is being transmitted electronically via EFS-Web to the United States Patent and Trademark Office September 10, 2008.

By: 

Name: Halina Wohl

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE AND  
SUBMISSION OF REPLACEMNT DRAWINGS**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This reply is responsive to the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due mailed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on July 25, 2008 for the above-identified application. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace drawings sheets 6 – 23 (Figures 6 through 23) as filed with the enclosed 18 sheets of formal drawings (Figures 6 through 23). The replacement drawings are in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), being black and white, and replace the drawings objected to by the Examiner, figures 6-22. The Examiner objected to the computer screen shots and gray shading

in the drawings submitted with the filing of the application. No other changes were made to the drawings, so no annotated drawings sheets are enclosed with this filing.

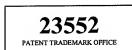
Attorney for Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 12 and 25 by the Examiner with appreciation. Attorney for Applicant agrees with the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the extent that the claims of the present invention are patentable over the references in the record. Attorney for Applicant expressly traverses the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the extent that any comment is intended or has the effect of limiting a claim scope, explicitly or implicitly, by not reciting verbatim the respective claim language, or is intended or has the effect of limiting a claim scope by stating or implying that all the reasons for patentability are in any way fully enumerated.

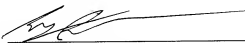
Attorney for Applicant further points out that the reasons for allowance set forth by the Examiner are not the only reasons that claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 12 and 25 are allowable. Further reasons for allowance of the claims beyond those enumerated by the Examiner are described and set forth in the specification. In addition, computer-aided systems that perform substantially the same function in substantially the same way to achieve the same results are included within the scope of the claims and the art identified.

Finally, as the Examiner's reasons for allowance are not exhaustive, such reasons for allowance do not establish an estoppel against Attorney for Applicant seeking and obtaining allowance of additional, broader claims in a continuation application, which Attorney for Applicant reserves the right to file.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(303) 357-1651



By:   
Greg Johnson, Esq., Reg. No. 59,027  
Attorney for Applicant

Date: September 10, 2008